## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for implementing Wide Area Centrex (WAC), where wherein a corresponding relationship between long number and short number of the WAC users is set and saved, the method comprising:

routing a call a calling user initiates to a soft-switch;

receiving by the soft-switch the call information the calling user initiates and determining that the calling user is a WAC user based on the by analyzing and recognizing a calling number;

determining a route [[to]] by the soft-switch to a called WAC user based on the call information and completing the call;

wherein the WAC is implemented by means.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said calling WAC user is a Next Generation Network (NGN) (NGN) user and said called WAC user is a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) (PSTN) / Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN) (PLMN) user;

the step of routing [[a]] the call [[a]] the calling user initiates to [[a]] the soft-switch comprises: the NGN user dialing the a short number of the called user, and initiating the call to the soft-switch;

the step of receiving by the soft-switch the call information the calling user initiates comprises: the soft-switch directly receiving the short number of the called user that the NGN user dials;

the step of determining the route by the soft-switch to the called user and completing the call comprises: the soft-switch starting its own analysis of Central Exchange (Centrex) numbers, obtaining the long number of the called user according to the saved long number and short number corresponding relationship, and routing the call to the Local Switch(LS) to which the called user belongs according to the obtained long number and completing the call:

wherein the WAC is implemented by means of trunk equipment refers to routing the call by the soft-switch to the LS to which the called user belongs by means of the trunk equipment.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said calling WAC user is a PSTN/PLMN user;

the step of routing the call [[a]] the calling user initiates to the soft-switch comprises: the PSTN/PLMN user dialing an out-group prefix of the WAC, and routing the call to the soft-switch after the <u>a</u> LS to which the PSTN/PLMN user belongs determines through detection that the out-group prefix is the out-group call prefix of the WAC;

the step of the soft-switch receiving the call information the calling user sends comprises: the soft-switch receiving the out-group prefix the LS sends;

the step of determining the route <u>by the soft-switch</u> to the called user and completing the call comprises: the soft-switch obtaining the data of the Centrex according to the calling number, starting its own analysis of Centrex numbers to determine that the

call is an out-group call, then deleting the out-group prefix and starting the procedure for handling an out-group call in IP Centrex service;

wherein the WAC is implemented by means of trunk equipment refers to routing the call the calling user initiates by the LS to which the PSTN/PLMN user belongs to the soft-switch by means of the trunk equipment.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the calling WAC user is a PSTN/PLMN user;

the step of routing [[a]] the call [[a]] the calling user initiates to [[a]] the soft-switch comprises: the PSTN/PLMN user dialing the a long number of the called user, and the a LS to which the PSTN/PLMN user belongs routing the call to the soft-switch according to a pre-configured routing data;

the step of receiving by the soft-switch the call information the calling user initiates comprises: the soft-switch receiving the called long number that the LS sends;

the step of determining the route <u>by the soft-switch</u> of the called user and completing the call comprises: the soft-switch obtaining the data of the Centrex according to the calling number, starting its own analysis of Centrex numbers to determine that the call is an out-group call, and then starting the procedure for handling an out-group call in IP Centrex service;

wherein the WAC is implemented by means of trunk equipment refers to routing the call the calling user initiates by the LS to which the PSTN/PLMN user belongs to the soft-switch by means of the trunk equipment.

- 5. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the long number and short number corresponding relationship of the WAC users is saved in a long number and short number corresponding table.
- 6. (Original) The method according to Claim 5, wherein the long number and short number corresponding table is saved in the soft-switch.
- 7. (Original) The method according to Claim 5, wherein the long number and short number corresponding table is saved in the peripherals of the soft-switch.
- 8. (Original) The method according to Claim 5, wherein the long number and short number corresponding table is saved in a remote database;

the method further comprising: the soft-switch accessing the remote database directly or via a proxy.

- 9. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein the proxy is a local database.
- 10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising: the switches belonging to the same WAC service group determining the short number prefix and the out-group prefix of the WAC group through negotiation.

- 11. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the long number and short number corresponding relationship of the WAC users is saved in a long number and short number corresponding table.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 3, wherein the long number and short number corresponding relationship of the WAC users is saved in a long number and short number corresponding table.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 4, wherein the long number and short number corresponding relationship of the WAC users is saved in a long number and short number corresponding table.
- 14. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, further comprising: the switches belonging to the same WAC service group determining the short number prefix and the out-group prefix of the WAC group through negotiation.
- 15. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 3, further comprising: the switches belonging to the same WAC service group determining the short number prefix and the out-group prefix of the WAC group through negotiation.

- 16. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 4, further comprising: the switches belonging to the same WAC service group determining the short number prefix and the out-group prefix of the WAC group through negotiation.
  - 17. (New) A soft-switch for implementing Wide Area Centrex (WAC), comprising: a first module, adapted to receive call information initiated by a calling user;
- a second module, adapted to determine whether the calling user is a WAC user by analyzing and recognizing a calling number in the call information;
- a third module, adapted to determine a route to a called user based on the call information, if the second module determines that the calling user is a WAC user; wherein the WAC is implemented by means of trunk equipment.
- 18. (New) The soft-switch according to Claim 17, wherein said calling user is a Next Generation Network (NGN) user and said called user is a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) / Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN) user,

the first module is adapted to receive a short number of the called user that the NGN user dials;

if the second module determines that the calling NGN user is a WAC user, the third module is further adapted to start its own analysis of Central Exchange (Centrex) numbers, obtain a long number of the called user according to a long number and short number corresponding relationship and the obtained short number of the called user.

19. (New) The soft-switch according to Claim 18, wherein the soft-switch further comprises:

a forth module, adapted to route the call by means of trunk equipment to a Local Switch (LS) to which the called user belongs according to the obtained long number and complete the call.

20. (New) The soft-switch according to Claim 17, wherein said calling user is a PSTN/PLMN user;

the first module is adapted to receive by means of trunk equipment an out-group prefix sent by a LS to which the PSTN/PLMN user belongs;

if the second module determines that the calling PSTN/PLMN user is a WAC user, the third module is further adapted to obtain data of a Centrex according to the calling number, start its own analysis of Centex numbers to determine that the call is an out-group call.

- 21. (New) The soft-switch according to Claim 20, wherein the soft-switch further comprises:
- a fifth module, adapted to delete the out-group prefix and start procedure for handling an out-group call in IP Centrex service.
- 22. (New) The soft-switch according to Claim 17, wherein the calling user is a PSTN/PLMN user:

the first module is adapted to receive by means of trunk equipment a called long number sent by a LS to which the PSTN/PLMN user belongs;

if the second module determines that the calling PSTN/PLMN user is a WAC user, the third module is further adapted to obtain data of a Centrex according to the calling number, start its own analysis of Centrex numbers to determine that the call is an out-group call.

23. (New) The soft-switch according to Claim 22, wherein the soft-switch further comprises:

a sixth module, adapted to start procedure for handling an out-group call in IP Centrex service.